

not enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program even though they are eligible. Today, this Congress has an opportunity to change that by passing legislation that will expand the program to 4 million additional kids.

At a time of rising unemployment, passing this legislation is more important than ever. In this economic recession, more and more parents are having difficulty finding affordable health insurance for their children. The need for this legislation grows every day. And this legislation is fully paid for so it will not increase the Federal deficit.

It is especially important for my home State of New York which has 402,000 uninsured kids. Imagine that. Nearly 10 percent of the national total. And I therefore thank the sponsor, Congressman FRANK PALLONE, and the Chairmen WAXMAN and MILLER for their work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, this legislation has received strong bipartisan support in the past for a reason, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it today.

□ 1030

DATA AMENDMENT

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, taxpayers want to know where the first \$350 billion of the bailout TARP money has gone; so does Congress. The independent General Accounting Office concluded that Treasury has not set up any policies and procedures to ensure that TARP funds are being used as intended. I am therefore putting in legislation to require Treasury to collect, analyze and report to the TARP oversight entities data on what recipients of the TARP money are receiving, and to let them analyze exactly where this money is going. I am proposing this in the form of an amendment to H.R. 384, which may be on the floor this week.

This amendment subjects TARP recipients to additional, but appropriate, scrutiny of their activities. It provides the entities charged with overseeing the TARP, including Congress, the tools they need to analyze exactly where our taxpayer money is going. I urge my colleagues to support it.

SCHIP

(Mr. PETERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, today the House will consider legislation to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program and provide health insurance coverage for more than 11 million children nationwide.

The current recession makes this legislation particularly important. Children living in low-income families in Michigan rose a staggering 40 percent between 2000 and 2007. Parents are losing their jobs and their health insur-

ance. And kids who do not have health coverage forgo regular checkups and preventive treatments. They miss more school days, and are less likely to finish high school. And untreated health problems can severely impact a young child's development. SCHIP provides a lifeline for children so that they can be healthy kids who have the opportunity to grow into healthy productive adults.

The SCHIP bill we will consider today is fiscally responsible. It is more cost-effective for taxpayers to provide proper care for our kids rather than footing the bill for unnecessary emergency room visits. Passing this legislation is the right thing to do for our Nation's kids.

INVESTING IN AMERICA'S COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

(Mr. PERRIELLO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support an economic recovery based on investing in America's competitive advantage.

Voters in Virginia's Fifth District sent me here because they recognize two things: First, we need fundamental change to revitalize this country's economy; and second, there are no shortcuts to getting there.

Somewhere along the way the world economy changed, but government responses stayed the same. The result in my district has been years of declining jobs, declining wages, and rising health care costs. These economic woes are now confronting the Nation as a whole, and we face an urgent moment as we lose half a million jobs every month.

We need a recovery strategy immediately, but this plan must be based on investment, not just throwing money at the problem. This crisis reflects a failure of confidence and will only be solved by its restoration. You restore confidence by fixing problems, not by pretending they aren't there.

The distinction between stimulus and recovery means more to economists than to our actual economy. I believe our Nation's economy will recover only through a visionary strategy for rebuilding America's competitive advantage. That means real commitment to investing in our workforce, our infrastructure, our innovation, and the new energy economy, and that must include investment in our small towns and rural communities.

This investment will be the guidance that our constituents need to create American jobs and turn this economy around.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2, CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Reso-

lution 52 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 52

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2) to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, my friend, Mr. SESSIONS. All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I ask unanimous consent, Madam Speaker, that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 52 provides a closed rule for consideration of H.R. 2, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009.

I really am honored and privileged to have the opportunity to present this rule to the body. The rule provides 1 hour of debate, equally divided among and controlled by the chairperson and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the chairperson and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Madam Speaker, the SCHIP reauthorization bill of 2009 is a fiscally responsible way to revive our commitment to providing America's low-income children with the quality health care they need and deserve. The bill authorizes \$32.3 billion over 4½ years to cover the seven million children who currently rely on SCHIP, and extends coverage to more than four million low-income children who are currently living without health care. The bill offers comprehensive and wide-ranging care that includes mental, dental, prenatal, and maternal health services.

The underlying bill also supports a multifaceted approach to increasing health insurance enrollment. It provides States with incentives to lower